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THE DESIGN IN OUR BEING HERE.

For a wise purpose were we permitted to be driven to these mountains, but are we always careful to square our conduct in full compliance with that purpose?

Wickedness had become so prevalent and predominant in the regions whence we were driven, that our remaining there to practice righteousness in peace was no longer possible. And besides the righteous must needs be gathered out, as in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, that the purposes of Jehovah might be accomplished in regard to those who expelled us. Those purposes are now progressing in rapid fulfillment, and are we ever vigilant and watchful in preparing to be ready, when the word goes forth, to again occupy that land and build up its waste places in holiness to the Lord?

That, in addition to standing in safe places while a fierce indignation shall pass over, is the great design in our being here. True, the adversary soon discovered the mistake he had made in driving us from our former homes, and stirred up his servants to cripple our exodus by a requisition for five hundred of our men while on the borders of the then western frontier. This ungodly plan, like all others of the kind, was overruled to the discomfiture of the wicked, and for the welfare of the righteous. The evil-one then impatiently watched the hopes and sayings of his servants that the Indians and starvation would soon close our career. But to the contrary, the moment the cruel hand of persecution rested, we threw most heartily in these arid valleys, rapidly increasing in numbers, good works and the comforts of life. This by no means suited his purpose, and he instigated the sending first one, then another, and then another small party here ostensibly for goodly reasons, but in reality, under that disguise, to spy out our liberty and report to our injury. Unfortunately for the success of this plan, the more honorable in each of those parties was constrained to mingle a roodly share of truth with their report, and the desired result remained unachieved. After much plotting, and the discussion of many cunning schemes, the flower of the American army was ordered to Utah to make a full end of "Mormonism." They came, they raged, they tarried a little season, they labored assiduously to spread corruption and death, they melted away, and nearly all of their prominent officers, particularly the rabid anti-Mormon, have thus soon fallen on the battle-fields of the great rebellion.

In this broad though brief sketch of a few points in our past history, who, having eyes and wishing to see, can fail to discern the arm of the Almighty continually and manifestly stretched out in behalf of His people? And who can doubt the continuance of that guidance and protection, whenever we as a people walk worthily thereof?

All the aforementioned plans for our overthrow having failed, another one—a sort of rehash and hodge-podge of the chief ingredients of former plans, with an unconstitutional act of Congress to help it—was some time ago set on foot, and is at the present time being worked to. Do the people, in the midst of busy care and toil, realize this? Do they comprehend that the enemy is sowing tares when the husbandman is asleep?

The breaking out of so gigantic a rebellion sadly chagrined the plotters of the present plan, and has thus far confined their attention chiefly to the other "twin," causing them, in the main, to "plow around" Utah. But is it given up? No. Are any at work at it? Quite a number; and we are at times of the opinion that some who profess to be of Israel are bowing their necks to the yoke of that plan, and are slavishly, painfully and laboriously toiling for their own overthrow. This their

agency permits them to do, but what is the reward for such a course? Death, the wages of sin.

What are some of the features of the present plan? The old system of espionage, though, through necessity, on a much smaller scale than in 1857-8; the instilling the spirit of the "merchandizing of Babylon;" the calling laudable and prudent improvements "slow," correct ideas and practice "antiquated," and worldly-mindedness alone "energy and enterprise;" the effort to make capitalists purse-proud, extravagant, exacting and oppressive, and the poor envious, lazy, prodigal and discontented; the persistent effort to sow broadcast the seeds of corruption; and, in short, in every way possible the luring us to forsake our religion and enlist to serve the devil. Are not these features characteristic? Are they not plainly specified, so that none need mistake them? Cannot the smallest accountable intelligence discern their working and shun them? If not, we repeat that working to that plan worketh destruction to all who follow it. The pleasures of sin may be sweet for a little season, but the end thereof is bitterness and death.

Having been led here to be further taught and practiced in the principles of the everlasting gospel, while certain events now in progress should transpire elsewhere, and it being our duty to work only righteousness continually in all our sayings and doings, to an observer not conversant with the power of evil through the weakness of the flesh it would seem strange that any one once having taken hold of the "rod of iron"—"the word of God"—should let go and wander into the "mists of darkness," which "are the temptations of the devil, which blindeth the eyes and hardeneth the hearts of the children of men, and leadeth them away into broad roads, that they perish, and are lost;" or that such an one should be seduced by the occupants of "the large and spacious building" seen in vision by Lehi and his son Nephi, which building "is vain imaginations and the pride of the children of men." But so it is, one is bought with the love of gain, another with what pleases vanity, another with sensuality, and so on to the end of the list of temptations, so that it requires the most constant and careful watchfulness and obedience of the most faithful to endure and accomplish the purposes for which we have been gathered here, and to be prepared in season to act as efficient co-workers in the next development in the progress of the great latter-day work, which is to be cut short in righteousness.

WATER! WATER!! WATER!!!

The importance of a community situated as we are possessing an ample supply of water cannot be overestimated. It is to us a question of the most vital interest, for our supply of the "staff of life" is mainly dependant upon it. The ground may be carefully tilled, the seeds planted and the practiced labor of the most skilled agriculturist expended in vain, if there is not a sufficient water-supply to moisten the earth and feed the growing crops until they fully develop. We have to rely almost altogether on the supply obtained from the mountain streams to irrigate with, being deprived to a very great extent of the "Heaven-given fertilizer" that drops down its blessings in countries more favored in this respect. These streams we have occasionally found to fail us in the hour of our need. The large quantity of snow that fell during the latter part of last winter and the early part of the present spring, seemed to promise a plentiful supply of water throughout the season; but the streams have diminished in volume very rapidly, there not having been sufficient for some time past to irrigate the land under cultivation in the city and contiguous to it. The demand for water is yearly increasing with us, lots are being taken up, fruit trees are being set out, in some places in large numbers, and the wants of a continually and rapidly increasing population have to be met by increased produce of various kinds. These facts point out the necessity of seeking an increased supply from some other source or sources than those now in use, even if the fierce scorching of our sometimes intensified summer heat did not measurably dry up the streams employed for irrigation purposes.

Under these considerations the Mass Meeting, noticed in another column, was held to take measures for increasing the supply and meeting the growing necessity. Two plans

have been proposed, either of which is perfectly feasible, and both may be acted upon.

That action will be taken in the matter we have no doubt. That the hearty co-operation of our citizens will facilitate in the rapidly development of that action requires no argument to prove. What the benefit will ultimately be to the community would be difficult to estimate.

If an arithmetical calculation were made, based upon known facts and well estimated results, of the amount in dollars that would be realized by the community, through having a plentiful supply of water over the gross total of the produce of their labor in cultivating the soil with a limited and imperfect supply, the figures would seem almost fabulous. We have made a rough calculation, taking into consideration alone the probable quantity of land under cultivation, but the amount reached is so high that we would prefer others working out the problem for themselves, instead of reading our figures.

Looked upon in the light of an investment of means alone, it would be about the best paying one that our citizens could engage in. But when we view the thousands of acres, through this valley, that can be brought into cultivation, now lying idly awaiting the workman's hand and the fertilizing element, and consider the rapid increase to our population, it becomes a duty and a necessity of the most imperative nature to use the means within our reach for obtaining water to irrigate the cultivatable land where it can be done.

A walk through the city to-day would show a serious falling-off both in the quantity and quality of the fruits, vegetables, etc., in the gardens, from what the luxuriant prospect of two months ago led the owners to reasonably expect. Then, with a plentiful supply of water, everything looked most promising and indicated a more than average plenteousness. Now, there are abundant evidences of immature ripening, and consequent failure of development in the articles raised that mature late. That this is caused by insufficient irrigation all know. And one great reason for the scarcity of water should not be lost sight of. The water that will abundantly irrigate one lot and no more, will certainly be insufficient for two. The quantity that sufficed for the city some years ago would now be too little even under the most favorable circumstances and in a season the most humid of any we have ever had. It has to be divided into a greater number of small streams, consequently the modicum to each lot is reduced in quantity or the time of using it is less.

This will continue, and every year the cause that necessitates the reduction of the quantity which each lot or block has the right to use will increase as our population increases and the actual city limits are extended. This is the very thing that renders it a necessity to obtain a further water supply; and this all our citizens are perfectly cognizant of. We hope, therefore, that all will feel interested enough in the matter to take an active part in endeavoring to accomplish the object in view.

The boring of artesian wells will furnish copious and continuous streams of water. These will divert a portion of City creek from particular localities in the city to others, thereby augmenting their supply; and they will also furnish material for embellishment and adornment in the erection of fountains by those who have taste and means to do so. The advantages of bringing out the Jordan are so obvious and so great that it needs no comment. We will wait the report of the committee appointed for the survey, feeling assured that so necessary and laudable a project will before a great while become a fact. The subject of artesian wells is an interesting one and we may recur to it again; meantime, we hope the people will energetically second the movement made, that we may be speedily placed in possession of so necessary an element of prosperity.

THE MASS MEETING.

On Wednesday a mass meeting was held in the bowery, for the purpose of taking into consideration the feasibility of bringing out a portion of the waters of Jordan by cutting a canal at or near the point of the mountain, hence in a northeasterly direction to form a junction with Big Cottonwood canal, and in this manner supply this city with water for irrigation in the Summer season. Another subject announced as a part of the programme was the sinking of artesian wells.

Hon Abraham O. Smoot was called to the

chair. The object of the meeting having been stated by the chairman, speeches were made by Hons. W. Woodruff, A. P. Rockwood and Z. Snow, in which they ably argued the necessity of increasing the supply of water in this city. Mr. Rockwood was of opinion that the waters of Jordan could be brought to this city on the east of the valley for \$171,000. Judge Snow thought a tax of \$15 per lot would raise sufficient means to sink a good artesian well that would afford the requisite supply of water to make up the deficiency of City Creek. Dr. Clinton was in favor of organizing a company with full power to take subscriptions and prosecute the work.

Numerous speakers then occupied the stand and all spoke in favor of artesian wells. Bishop Cunningham, Robert T. Burton, George B. Wallace, George D. Watt, Jesse C. Little, George Goddard, Bishops Hickenlooper and Sharp, were among the most prominent of the speakers.

President Young advocated the sinking of several artesian wells in this city, and also the cutting of a canal to bring the waters of Jordan around the eastern bench by way of the Cottonwood canal. As to the practicability of such a move he did not entertain any doubt; he also felt satisfied that the waters of Utah Lake could be held in reserve and be made to benefit the citizens of this county. In 1862, he said the Lake rose seven feet above high water mark, it had been trying to run off ever since, and was still three feet above its former level.

After much speaking, it was voted that the Bishops of the several Wards should form a committee to receive subscriptions in their respective Wards, and make report of their proceedings to the City Council. Mr. Wallace then moved that a committee be appointed to go and examine the Jordan and ascertain the practicability of bringing the waters of that river to this city along the eastern bench. Seconded and carried. The chairman appointed Reuben Miller, William Hickenlooper and Elijah F. Sheets said committee. The last named committee were instructed to report to the county court.

Adjourned *Sine die*.

THIS SEASON'S IMMIGRATION.—There has been much delay in starting a portion of the trains from Wyoming, through difficulty in getting forward freight and wagons, and the late arrival of the last ship's company. And in addition to the six trains sent from here and the Independent Companies, the excess of freight and passengers required, the purchasing and outfitting of another train of over fifty wagons. This, the last Church train, Elder W. S. Snow, Captain, was twenty miles this side of Wyoming on the 19th inst.

Br. W. C. Staines was expected at Wyoming on the 20th, with the last of the freight, some three tons, when Elders Joseph A. Young, H. B. Clawson, Joseph W. Young and others will start in private conveyance and come through as speedily as the Indian troubles on a portion of the route will permit.

Captain John D. Chase's Company, Independent, was, as already noticed, 43 miles this side of Laramie on the 20th, moving slowly, several of their cattle having died. A list of this company was published in the 'News' of the 10th, and those having relatives and friends with them will confer a great favor by meeting them, as soon as possible, with a dozen or more yokes of cattle.

Captain Rollins' train passed Laramie on the 20th, "passengers and teams doing well." They left Wyoming July 15th, and are making good time.

None of the trains or companies, so far as heard from, have been interrupted by Indians.

Since writing the foregoing Elder Joseph W. Young has telegraphed that they expected to start for home on the 21st.

Captain Murdock's train was at Bear river on the 22d, and is expected to arrive to-morrow.

RETURNED.—About six o'clock on Monday evening, Presidents Young and Kimball, and their company returned from a visit to Wasatch county. Sketch of the trip next week.

ARRIVALS.—Henry W. Naisbett and Frederick A. Mitchell arrived in this city, by stage on Sunday morning. We understand they have been exposed to many dangers on the trip, on account of Indian hostilities.

RECOVERING.—Mrs. Perkins, who was recently accidentally shot by her husband at the Salt Lake House, is recovering rapidly.